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BY THE KING.

*HIS MAJESTIES OFFER OF PARDON TO
the Rebels now in Arms against Him.*

WHEREAS an Actuell and open Rebellion is raised, and severall Armies marching against Us, under the Command and Conduct of Robert Earl of Essex and other persons under his Commissions and Authority, who falsly pretend that what they do, is by vertue of Our Authority, and for Our service, and so seduce many of Our good Subjects from their dutie and allegiance, into this horrid and odious Rebellion against Us; We do therefore declare the said Robert Earl of Essex and all such who by any Commission under him have levied or do command any Souldiers, to be guilty of High Treason, and that this Rebellion is raised to take away Our life from Us, to destroy Our Posterity, to change the blessed Protestant Religion established by the Laws of the Land, to supplant the Law of the Kingdome, and to take away the Liberty of the Subject, and to subject both to an unlimited Arbitrary Power. And We do therefore will and command all our loving Subjects upon their Allegiance, and their Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacie, that they apprehend the said Earl of Essex, and all such who by vertue of any Commission under him have levied or do now command any Souldiers in any places of this Kingdome, as guilty of High Treason. And to any common Souldiers so raised, We do grant Our free and generall pardon, as to persons seduced by the cunning and falshood of the Authors of this Rebellion, if such Souldiers shall disband within six dayes after the publishing of this Our Proclamation, so they commit no Hostile Act in the mean while against Us. And if such Souldier or Souldiers shall within that time apprehend and bring before Us, or any officers of Our Army, the bodies of any of the Commanders or Officers now in Rebellion against Us, he and they besides their Pardons shall receive such liberall rewards by Pensions, or otherwise, as their severall service in respect of the qualities of the Persons so apprehended shall deserve. And if any Commander or Officer of any of the Armies now in Rebellion against Us, shall within foure dayes after this Our Proclamation published, being convinced in his conscience of his damnable offence against God and Us in assisting this odious Rebellion, return to his Allegiance and repair to Our Army, and commit no hostile Act in the mean while against Us, We shall not onely pardon him, but so farre imploy him as his quality and demeanour shall deserve; Except all such persons whom We have before excepted in Our Declaration of the twelfth of the last August. And We do hereby require all Our loving Subjects of what degree or quality soever upon their Allegiance, and as they tender the cause of God (the Protestant Religion being invaded, and threatned to be rooted up by Anabaptists, Brownists, and Atheists) of Us and Our Posterity, (Our life being sought after by this Rebellion) and of Themselves (the Law and Libertie of the Subject being in apparent hazard to be subjected to an Arbitrary Lawlesse power of a rout of schismaticall, factious, and ambitious Persons) to assist Us in Person, or with the loan of Money, Plate, and Horses in this Our great necessity.

And We do further declare to all Our loving Subjects, that as We have and shall take all possible care to prevent the sufferings of Our good people by the Souldiers of Our Army, so what ever pressures shall unavoidably fall upon them by reason of the violence offered unto Us in seising and detaining Our own Money and Revenue from Us, We do promise in the word of a King to satisfie them for the same so soon as God shall enable Us. And the better to encourage Our good Subjects to aid and assist Us in this Our necessary defence to which their duty to God and Us obligeth them, We do declare, That whosoever shall loose his life in this Service, the Wardship of his Heir shall be granted by Us without Rent or Fine to his own use: And We shall hold Our Self obliged to take all possible care for the Support, Relief, and Protection of all their Wives and Children, who shall have the hard fortune to die in this Service.